

POLYGRAPHS

It has been mentioned already in the course of this hearing that Professor Hill, on her own and not in response to any request from this Committee, took a polygraph examination -- a lie detector test -- which she passed. She was asked about her allegations regarding Judge Thomas, and the test concluded that she was not lying.

It has been suggested that this polygraph test somehow violated the 1988 polygraph law. That is nonsense. The 1988 law simply banned certain employers from requiring employees to take polygraph tests in certain circumstances. It did not prohibit employees from voluntarily taking the tests in any circumstances.

The bill even allowed employers to require employees to take polygraph tests when the employer was investigating certain specific crimes and had reason to suspect a particular employee. And firms such as security firms are allowed to use polygraphs in any circumstances. And the bill did not ban polygraph examinations by federal, state or local governments.

Anita Hill volunteered to take the test; it is nonsense suggest that federal law undercuts the results of that test in any way.